GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
INSUFFICIENT SCREENING FACILITIES FOR CANCER
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that screening facilities for cancer is insufficient in the Government hospitals ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide better cancer screening facilities and its cure in the Country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Health being a State subject, it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. Most of the primary, secondary and tertiary level health care facilities in the country have provision for early detection of common cancers like Breast, Uterine Cervix, Oral Cavity etc.

The Central Government hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, Jawaharlal Nehru Institute for Post-Graduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER), Pondicherry, etc. are well-equipped to provide specialized treatment for cancer.

(c) All the schemes under the National Cancer Control Programme have since been revised. Special emphasis is now being laid on early detection of Cancer through screening, promoting health education, creating awareness etc. under District Cancer Control Programme to be implemented through the nodal agencies in districts identified by State Governments.